

Linda S. Moen

Monarch Beach, California 92629

June 23, 2003

Jeff S. Jordan  
Supervisory Attorney  
Central Enforcement Docket  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20463

RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF GENERAL  
COUNSEL  
2003 JUN 24 A 11:34

Dear Mr. Jordan:

This correspondence is in response to your letter dated June 6, 2003 (received June 10, 2003) regarding matter ~~MUR 5366~~. This unfounded complaint filed by The American Conservative Union erroneously suggests that I, as well as my husband, do not have the financial means to contribute to Senator John Edward's Presidential campaign. Further, it recklessly and maliciously implies that my contribution is highly "suspect" because it is from a "lower-level" employee.

First and foremost, I find it incredible that The Hill and the ACU have intruded upon my personal life and my family's financial position. The Hill reporter asked me why I donated my financial support to Senator John Edwards and I politely and cooperatively told him, but my answer obviously did not suit his purpose since he did not include it in his story. In fact, my husband and I strongly support Senator Edwards' campaign for the Presidency

The Hill article attached to the ACU complaint implies that I have neither the financial means nor the intelligence to make a \$2,000 contribution. However, the basic numbers do prove that my husband and I enjoy the benefits that a solid middle class income affords. I am a very private person, but in this correspondence, so as to respond to the complaint, I will reveal confidential facts regarding my financial status. I request that the FEC keep confidential the personal financial information that I am providing in this response.

Please do not misinterpret my intent as I relay the above information to you. I write none of this to boast. I simply feel that the claims of the The Hill article and the ACU complaint that we

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cannot afford to contribute to the Edwards campaign so blatantly false and unjust. Do you realize that if you run a Google search of my name on the Internet the defaming ACU accusations appear?

I am 53 years old; I have successfully and enjoyably completed 18+ years of education. I have been married for 32 years. I taught English at an Adult school for 7 years and instilled in my students inspiration and self-pride, as well as knowledge. I have 12 years of highly successful experience as a Paralegal and a Law Office Administrator, as my salary indicates. We have raised an intelligent and hard-working son who is truly a fine and admirable human being. I have been a Montessori Mom, a Team Mom, a Room Mom. I have made prize winning soccer banners, baked delicious cupcakes for school bake sales, and worked more than my share at the Little League snack bar. Currently, each year I organize a firm-wide seasonal donation to the Good Shepherd battered woman's shelter in Los Angeles, to which I donate considerable energy and dollars. None of this, I am sorry to relate, is featured on the Internet. To say the least, The Hill article damages me, and, unfortunately, I feel as defensive as I sound.

I support Senator Edward's campaign. I find the current media bashing of trial lawyers frightening. The work done by plaintiffs' firms is enormous and protects the Constitutional rights of all American citizens. I believe that juries can and do make sound decisions; jurors do have the intelligence and sound judgment to award punitive damage awards, when deemed appropriate.

In my profession I have witnessed the results of many tragic, catastrophic injuries. Have you looked into the face of a 28-year-old confined to a life long sentence as a paraplegic in a wheelchair? What dollar value compensates a lost limb, or the parents of an infant born with brain damage? Greedy lawyers? Indeed. Dumb jurors? That is demeaning. Where is the respect for our judicial system? I am proud of my firm and admire the brilliance and determination of our attorneys. If you or a loved one were tragically victimized as a result of a defect of which a manufacturer was fully aware, you would want us protecting you, too. I am proud of my profession and my participation in it. I chose to donate to the Senator Edwards campaign; the money I gave was my own. The money my husband gave was his own. Our decision to contribute to the Edwards' campaign was not made casually; we thought it was an important thing to do.

The Hill article did contain certain facts that were accurate. It is true that my husband and I registered as Republicans when we moved to California many years ago. My husband regularly votes in Republican elections. We live in Orange County, a bastion of California Republicanism. Many important elections take place in the Republican primaries, and my husband feels his vote is an important voice in tempering some of the more extreme Republican philosophies. I categorize both of us, however, more under the label of "independent," voting the person and not blindly the party.

In conclusion, I again must apologize for any statements I may have made which may appear boastful. Please understand that I feel obligated to provide you with a full, accurate description

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of who I am and our financial situation, in what I believe, and what motivates me. I understand and appreciate that it is your assignment to investigate all complaints filed. I trust that the confidentiality of my personal financial information will be protected by the FEC. And, lastly, I hope this answers all your questions. I thank you for your patience and consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda S. Moen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Linda S. Moen

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